

Children Entering Custody FY98-99

During fiscal year 1998-1999, 6,431 children entered the Department of Children's Services custody. Of these, 29% came into care because they were adjudicated delinquent, 60% because they were dependent or neglected or abused, 9% were adjudicated unruly, and 3% were in another category.

Statistics on Delinquent Commitments

During FY98-99, 1,861 children were committed to DCS custody with an adjudication of delinquent. This means that the child committed an offense that would be a violation of the law even for an adult. The following tables give some general information about children with delinquent adjudications (See Appendix 1 for additional information).

Table 4: DCS FY98-99 Delinquent Commitments by Race, Gender and Age

	White Male	White Female	Black Male	Black Female	Other	Total
Under 12	5	2	2	0	1	10
12-13	41	22	25	5	0	93
14-15	203	74	117	18	7	419
16-17	509	111	355	43	24	1,042
18+	155	23	103	5	11	297
Total	913	232	602	71	43	1,861

Table 4 shows that most (81%) of committed delinquents were male and that the majority (56%) of all delinquent children committed to custody were in the 16-17 year age group. Figure 4 shows the ages, race and gender of delinquent children committed during FY98-99.